An observation by the President.

Mr. President.—Before we proceed to the next item in the agenda, I would like to make an observation. It has been brought to my notice that the Hon'ble Member Mr. K. T. Mathew in the course of his speech yesterday made certain observations on the absence of the President from the Chair at the time his resolution was moved. Whatever might be the value that a particular Member attaches to his resolution or motion, so far as the Government is concerned every resolution and motion of this House is treated with the same respect and same consideration. The Government makes no difference. And so far as the representation of the point of view of the Government on the business before the House is concerned, it is not the duty of the Diwan President but it is clearly the duty of the official Members who represent the Government and the presence or absence of the President from the Chair is no indication of the importance or otherwise which the Government attaches to a resolution before the House. Hon'ble Members know perfectly well that in addition to my duties as the President, I have got my normal duties as the Head of the executive administration. And I have tried during the last two or three sessions consistent with my other duties to be present in the chamber as often and as frequently as possible, and I shall continue to do so. (Hear, hear). Let there be no misunderstanding on the point. Since there was a tinge of personal reference in the observations of Mr. K. T. Mathew, I am constrained to remark that these observations come with ill-grace from an Hon'ble Member whose absence is more noticed in this House than his presence.

The Cochin Poisons Bill.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Sir, I move that the Cochin Poisons Bill be taken up and finally passed.

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—I second it.

Motion put and carried.

The Cochin Debt Conciliation Bill.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Mr. President, Sir, under Standing Order 31 I move that the Cochin Debt Conciliation Bill be read in Council.

Mr. T. K. Nayar.—I second it.

Motion put and carried.

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